

## OCYPUS OLENS (MULLER) IN THE UNITED STATES (STAPHYLINIDAE)

*Ocypus olens* (Müll.), also known as *Staphylinus* (*Goerius*) *olens* (Müll.), is a common species in Europe. In July and August, 1953, I collected two of these handsome beetles from Whittier, California (Los Angeles County). They are rather large, black staphylinids (23 to 25 mm. long) and are sparsely clothed with short, black hairs. Voluminous correspondence has revealed the following information.

*Ocypus olens* (Müll.) has been recorded from California and Mexico by Blackwelder in the Fifth Supplement to Leng's Catalogue. In his personal collection Blackwelder has specimens from: Los Angeles, California (5 January 1930, collected by Morris Ojeda); Coatepec, Mexico (15 May 1929, collected by O. Fulda); and Tejupilco, Mexico, D. F. (August 1932, probably collected by Hinton and Usinger).

Dr. W. Dwight Pierce, Curator of the Entomology Collection of the Los Angeles County Museum, reports specimens from Los Angeles collected on the following dates: February 1925 (larvae); 5 October 1931; 17 June 1935; 22 February 1936; 14 January 1938 (larvae); September 1940; and July 1944. On one occasion Dr. Pierce received reports that members of this species made themselves unpopular by biting the toes of people sitting around a swimming pool in Hollywood.

Dr. E. C. Van Dyke (1945 Pan-Pacific Ent., vol. 21, p. 10) also records this beetle from Hollywood, collected 16 April 1936, and from west Los Angeles, in November 1940. He states that it has been found in abundance near the University of California's Los Angeles campus.

Hugh B. Leech, Curator of the Entomological Collection at the California Academy of Sciences, cites three specimens of *Ocypus olens* taken in Golden Gate Park (San Francisco) in February 1945 and May 1947 (P. Raven, collector). He states that one other was taken from Saint Francis Wood, San Francisco County, on 12 September 1952.

This is, so far as I know, a summary of all the North American captures of this species.—RAY E. WILLIAMS, 1611 Maple Street, Whittier, California.

### CURRENT LITERATURE

*Edited by J. GORDON EDWARDS*

#### General

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